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# *The Tennessee Public Health Workforce Development Consortium*

## *Spring/Summer 2007 Newsletter*



### Applied Epidemiology Certificate Awarded to 23 Participants

In January, 23 graduates were acknowledged for completing the Applied Epidemiology certificate program through the Tennessee Public Health Workforce Development Consortium at the Mid-Cumberland Regional Health Office in Nashville. Participants worked diligently to successfully complete the 15 graduate credit hour program with a 3.0 or better G.P.A. while working full-time.

The Tennessee Public Health Workforce Development program is designed to enhance the capabilities of the staff of the Tennessee Department of Health through graduate educational programs. These educational programs focus on improving core public health competencies and will be based on curricula leading to the award of Certificates of Accomplishments in three disciplines: Applied Epidemiology, Public Health Leadership, and Health Care Management.

Students who are approved for participation in the certificate program receive full tuition and book scholarships by the Tennessee Department of Health. Additionally, the program utilizes distance education methods to allow students to participate without travel and with minimal disruption of their work routine.

The Tennessee Public Health Workforce Development Consortium is expanding its program by partnering with East Tennessee State University to offer the MPH degree online. All courses are offered through modes of distance education and are taught by faculty members of the participating university.

**Tennessee Public Health  
Workforce Development  
Consortium**

For more questions  
regarding the program,  
please contact  
Aleshia Hall-Campbell at  
(901) 448-3026 or  
ahall18@utm.edu



Fall 2006 graduates pose with former Commissioner, Kenneth Robinson, M.D. Pictured on front row from left to right are: Darla Sampson, Susan Barber, Jennifer Kozlica, Linda Hensley, Amanda Mason, Former Commissioner Kenneth Robinson, Diana Saia, Mica Rudd, Margaret Zylstra, and Yolanda Woods. Back row from left to right are: Wendy Barrickman, Janice Brown, Jim Jellison, Erica Wilson, Russell DeBusk, Monica Durrett, Jerrod Wright, Beverly Watkins, and Elizabeth Cook. Not pictured: Shanna Booker, Valerie Dangerfield, Dawn Ford, Tina McElravey, and Kristie Threet.

## Fall 2007 Application Deadline: June 30, 2007

Tennessee Department of Health employees who are interested in enrolling in the Tennessee Public Health Workforce Development Consortium will need to complete the application process by **June 30, 2007.**

Students choose to enroll in one of three graduate level certificate programs: Applied Epidemiology, Public Health Leadership, or Health Care Management.

### The Application Process:

1. Students must be an employee of the Tennessee Department of Health and be recommended and approved for participation by their immediate supervisor and Regional or Metro Director. Directors must submit participants' names to Central Office for final approval.
2. Students must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited university;
3. Once approved by Central Office, students must complete an application and receive full admission status at one of the participating institutions: East Tennessee State University, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, or University of Tennessee Health Science Center ;
4. Students must submit to the university an official undergraduate transcript of each college or university attended;
5. Students must have a minimum undergraduate G.P.A. of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale. Some institutions may require higher G.P.A.'s;
6. Students must complete the TN Public Health Workforce Development application and Student Acknowledgement Form available on the Consortium's website:  
<http://www.utmem.edu/TNConsortium/>

*Students choose to enroll in one of three graduate level programs:  
Applied Epidemiology, Public Health Leadership, or Health Care Management.*

## Overview of Each Certificate Program and the Online MPH Program

**Applied Epidemiology:** The Applied Epidemiology certificate program focuses on the application of basic and advanced epidemiological methods to public health problems. Courses include Introduction and Advanced Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Overview of Public Health, and Applied Statistical Software.

**Public Health Leadership:** This certificate is designed to enhance the leadership and management skills of individuals who are in mid-to-upper level administrative positions with the Department of Health. This certificate is a 15 credit hour program including the following courses: Overview of Public Health, Public Health Leadership, Public Health Policy & Law, Program Evaluation, and Strategic Planning/Culminating Experience.

**Health Care Management:** The Health Care Management certificate program provides the learner with leadership and strategic management tools specifically for the health care environment. This certificate is an 18-hour interdisciplinary certificate program. Participants will take five core courses, including Human Resources Management, Health Care Accounting and Finance, and Health Care Organizations and Delivery. In addition to the core courses, students are required to select an elective as their sixth course in the certificate program. **Students must apply to ETSU to enroll in this program.**

**MPH:** As an effort to foster continuing graduate education, the Consortium has partnered with East Tennessee State University to offer the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree

online with concentrations in epidemiology and health services administration.

Students who complete any of the certificate programs with a 3.0 G.P.A., and are approved by the Department of Health for continued participation will be able to apply to the MPH program without the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) requirement.

For more information, please contact Aleshia Hall-Campbell at (901) 448-3026 or [ahall18@utmem.edu](mailto:ahall18@utmem.edu), or visit our website at:

<http://www.utmem.edu/tconsortium>.